

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please re-write the claims as follows:

- 1    1. (Previously Presented) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2    ing:  
3        receiving a file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the request re-  
4    ceived by a proxy;  
5        forwarding the request from the proxy to a file server;  
6        returning a reply associated with the file request from the file server to the proxy;  
7        inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle; and  
8        sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle  
9    to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-  
10   cated file.
  
- 1    2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
2        using the metadata in the file handles for any of eliminating a need for the proxy  
3    to generate additional requests to the server to establish file identity, and for completing  
4    client requests.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
2 encoding metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle, the session key  
3 expiring after a predetermined amount of time.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
2 using an NFS file system as the file system.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
2 using a stateless protocol by the file system.

1 6-29. (Cancelled).

1 30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 sending a second ~~another~~ file request by the client to the server;  
3 including the metadata in a further file handle sent with the second ~~another~~ re-  
4 quest;  
5 receiving the a second ~~another~~ request by the proxy;  
6 identifying, in response to the metadata, the client as permitted to submit the sec-  
7 ond ~~another~~ file request;  
8 sending the second ~~another~~ request to the file server and not sending the meta-  
9 data with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the file server; and

10 receiving by the proxy the further reply from the file server, and sending by the  
11 proxy the further reply to the client.

1 31. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2 ing:

3 receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4 request received by a proxy;

5 forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;

6 returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
7 proxy;

8 inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle;

9 sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle  
10 to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client as having a  
11 permission to access ~~and~~ the indicated file;

12 sending a second file request by the client to the server;

13 including the metadata in a second file handle sent with the second file request;

14 receiving the second file request by the proxy;

15 identifying, in response to the metadata, that the client has the permission ~~as per-~~  
16 ~~mitted~~ to submit the second file request;

17 sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the metadata  
18 with the second file handle to the file server; and

19 receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the  
20 proxy the second reply to the client.

1 32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, compris-  
2 ing:

3 a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to for-  
4 ward the request to a file server;

5 the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;

6 the proxy to insert metadata into the file handle; and

7 the proxy to send the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle to  
8 the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-  
9 cated file.

1 33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 32, further comprising:

2 the client to send a second ~~another~~ file request to the server, the client to include  
3 the metadata in the second ~~a further~~ file handle sent with the second ~~another~~ request;

4 the proxy to receive the second ~~another~~ request, the proxy to identify, in response  
5 to the metadata, the client as permitted to submit the second ~~another~~ file request, and the  
6 proxy to send the second ~~another~~ request to the file server and not to send the metadata  
7 with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the file server; and

8 the proxy to receive a second ~~further~~ reply from the file server, and the proxy to  
9 send the second ~~further~~ reply to the client.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:  
2 the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to elimi-  
3 nate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.

1 35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:  
2 the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle,  
3 the session key expiring after a predetermined amount of time.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:  
2 an NFS file system used as the file system.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:  
2 a stateless protocol used by the file system.

1 38. (Currently Amended) A computer readable memory media, comprising:  
2 said computer readable memory media containing instructions for execution on a  
3 processor for a method of establishing identity in a file system, the method having,  
4 receiving a file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the request re-  
5 ceived by a proxy;  
6 forwarding the request from the proxy to a file server;

7           returning a reply associated with the file request from the file server to the proxy;  
8           inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle; and  
9           sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle  
10       to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-  
11       cated file.

1       39. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2       ing:

3           receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4       request received by a proxy;  
5           forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;  
6           ~~permitting~~ granting a permission for the request to be acted upon by the file  
7       system in response to a predetermined protocol;  
8           returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
9       proxy;  
10          inserting, by the proxy, a session key into the file handle; and  
11          sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the session key inserted in the file han-  
12       dle to the client, the session key to be used in further requests to identify the client and  
13       the indicated file [[:]] .

1       40. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:  
2           sending a second file request by the client to the server;

3 including the session key in a second file handle sent with the second file request;  
4 receiving the second file request by the proxy;  
5 identifying, in response to the session key, that the client has the permission as  
6 ~~permitted~~ to submit the second file request;  
7 sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the session key  
8 with the second file handle to the file server; and  
9 receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the  
10 proxy the second reply to the client.

1 41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:

2 causing the session key to expire after a selected amount of time.

1 42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:

2 causing the session key to expire after a selected amount of usage.

1 43. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:

2 using a NFS protocol as the predetermined protocol.

1 44. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~43~~ 39, further comprising:

2 using as the predetermined protocol a two way communication exchange between  
3 the proxy and the file server.

1 45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, compris-  
2 ing:  
3 a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to for-  
4 ward the request to a file server;  
5 the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;  
6 the proxy to insert a session key into the file handle; and  
7 the proxy to send the file handle with the session key inserted in the file handle to  
8 the client, the session key to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-  
9 cated file.

1 46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 45, further comprising:  
2 the client to send a second ~~another~~ file request to the server, the client to include  
3 the session key in a further file handle sent with the second ~~another~~ request;  
4 the proxy to receive the second ~~another~~ request, the proxy to identify, in response  
5 to the metadata, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit the another file  
6 request, and the proxy to send the second ~~another~~ request to the file server and not to  
7 send the session key with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the file server; and  
8 the proxy to receive a further reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
9 further reply to the client.



- 1 47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2 the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to elimi-  
3 nate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.
- 1 48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2 the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle,  
3 the session key expiring after a predetermined amount of time.
- 1 49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2 an NFS file system used as the file system.
- 1 50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2 a stateless protocol used by the file system.
- 1 51. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:  
2 a proxy to receive a first file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to  
3 forward the first file request to a file;  
4 the file server to return a reply associated with the first file request to the proxy;  
5 the proxy to insert a session key into a file handle;  
6 the proxy to send the file handle with the session key inserted in the file handle to  
7 the client, the session key to be used in a second file request to identify the client and the  
8 indicated file;

9           the client to send a second file request to the server, the client to include the ses-  
10   sion key in a second file handle sent with the second file request;

11           the proxy to receive the second file request, and the proxy to identify, in response  
12   to the session key, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit the second file  
13   request, and the proxy to send the second file request to the file server and not to send the  
14   session key with the second file handle to the file server; and

15           the proxy to receive a second reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
16   second reply to the client.

1   52. (Previously Presented) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2   ing:

3           receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4   request received by a proxy;

5           forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;

6           ~~permitting~~ determining that the client has a permission to have the request ~~to be~~  
7   acted upon by the file system in response to a predetermined protocol;

8           returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
9   proxy;

10          inserting, by the proxy, a cryptographic information into the file handle;

11          sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted  
12   in the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in one or more

13   further requests to identify the client and the indicated file.

1 53. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:

2 sending a second file request by the client to the server;

3 including the cryptographic information in a second file handle sent with the sec-  
4 ond file request;

5 receiving the second file request by the proxy;

6 identifying, in response to the cryptographic information, that the client has the  
7 permission ~~as permitted~~ to submit the second file request;

8 sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the cryptographic  
9 information with the second file handle to the file server; and

10 receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the  
11 proxy the second reply to the client.

1 54. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:

2 causing the cryptographic information to expire after a selected amount of time.

1 55. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:

2 causing the cryptographic information to expire after a selected amount of usage.

1 56. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:

2 using a NFS protocol as the predetermined protocol.

1 57. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:  
2 using as the predetermined protocol a two way communication exchange between  
3 the proxy and the file server.

1 58. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, compris-  
2 ing:  
3 a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to for-  
4 ward the request to a file server;  
5 the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;  
6 the proxy to insert a cryptographic information into the file handle; and  
7 the proxy to send the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted in  
8 the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in further requests  
9 to identify the client and the indicated file.

1 59. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 58, further comprising:  
2 the client to send a second ~~another~~ file request to the server, the client to include  
3 the cryptographic information in a second ~~further~~ file handle sent with the second ~~an-~~  
4 ~~other~~ request;  
5 the proxy to receive the second ~~another~~ request, the proxy to identify, in re-  
6 sponse to the metadata, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit the second  
7 ~~another~~ file request, and the proxy to send the second ~~another~~ request to the file server

8 and not to send the cryptographic information with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the  
9 file server; and

10 the proxy to receive a further reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
11 further reply to the client.

1 60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to elimi-  
3 nate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.

1 61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a cryptographic information into the  
3 file handle, the cryptographic information expiring after a predetermined amount of time.

1 62. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 an NFS file system used as the file system.

1 63. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 a stateless protocol used by the file system.

1 64. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:

2 a proxy to receive a first file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to  
3 forward the first file request to a file server;

4           the file server to return a reply associated with the first file request to the proxy;  
5           the proxy to insert a cryptographic information into a file handle;  
6           the proxy to send the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted in  
7 the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in a second file re-  
8 quest to identify the client and the indicated file;  
9           the client to send a second file request to the server, the client to include the cryp-  
10 tographic information in a second file handle sent with the second file request;  
11           the proxy to receive the second file request, and the proxy to identify, in response  
12 to the cryptographic information, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit  
13 the second file request, and the proxy to send the second file request to the file server and  
14 not to send the cryptographic information with the second file handle to the file server;  
15 and  
16           the proxy to receive a second reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
17 second reply to the client.